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Message Text

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43
ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 PM-04 TRSE-00 COME-00 EB-07

DODE-00 L-03 SY-05 /028 W
---------- 026433
R 111150Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9195
INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 2914

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MILI, TZ
SUBJ: LAWS GOVERNING FIREARM IMPORTATION - TANZANIA

REF: STATE 177789

1. STRICT RESTRICTIONS ARE IN FORCE ON COMMERCIAL DEALING IN FIREARMS IN TANZANIA. COMMERCIAL IMPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION IS CONTROLLED BY A STATE-OWNED TRADING ORGANIZATION, THE AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES COMPNAY LIMITED (AGRIND).

2. IMPORTATION RESTRICTIONS, THE REQUIREMENT OF POLICE PERMISSION FOR PURCHASE OR RE-SALE, AND ANNUAL LICENCE FEE ON NON-MILITARY FIREARMS ENSURE THAT ALL PRIVATELY-OWNED WEAPONS ARE PROPERLY RECORDED BY TANGOV AUTHORTIES.

3. ANSWERS TO REFTEL CAN BE SUMMARIED AS FOLLOWS:

(A) BEFORE IMPORTATION, AGRIND, WHICH IS SOLE AUTHORIZED IMPORTER OF FIREARMS, HAS TO HAVE ITS IMPORT REQUIREMENTS APPROVED BY TANZANIA POLICE.

(B) AFTER POLICE APPROVAL AGRIND HAS TO OBTAIN IMPORT LICENCE
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FROM THE BANK OF TANZANIA (BOT), SINCE ARMS AND AMMUNITION ARE

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SUBJECT TO STRICT IMPORT CONTROLS. ISSUANCE OF IMPORT LICENCE IS TO ENSURE THAT FOREIGN EXCHANGE IS AVAILABLE FOR THE TRANSACTION INVOLVED. (AN OFFICIAL OF AGRIND INDICATED THAT AT PRESENT BOT, IN CONSULTATION WITH POLICE, HAS PLACED A TOTAL BAN ON COMMERCIAL IMPORTATION OF FIREARMS).

4. DOCUMENTS METIONED IN 3 (A) AND (B) ABOVE CONSIDERED SUFFICIENT TO MEET MUNITIONS CONTROL REQUIREMENTS THAT TANGOV HAS KNOWLEDGE OF AND HAS GIVEN APPROVAL TO IMPORTATION OF PARTICULAR CONSIGNMENT OF FIREARMS. IN FACT, BOT ALWAYS ISSUES AN EXTRA COPY OF IMPORT LICENCE FOR POSSIBLE USE BY THE EXPORTER MENTIIONED IN IMPORT LICENCE.

5. CHAPTER 223 OF THE LAWS OF TANGANYIKA CONTAINS REGULARTIONS AND ORDERS ON THE SALE, RE-SALE, DISPOSITION, SAFE CUSTODY, REPAIR AND CONVEYANCE OF FIREARMS IN TANZANIA. BRIEFLY THEY ARE:

(I) POLCE PERMISSION MUST OBTAINED BEFORE PURCHASE, INDICATING REASON FIREARM IS TO BE PURCHASED.

(II) CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP MUST BE OBTAINED FROM POLICE AFTER PURCHASE.

(III) PAYAMENT OF ANNUAL LICENCE FEE MUST BE MADR FOR EACH OF FIREARM (FEES DIFFER ACCORDING TO WEAPON).

(IV) SELLER (AGRIND) MUST MAINTAIN A RECORD OF SALE FOR EACH FIREARM.

(V) POLICE APPROVAL HAS TO BE OBTAINED FOR RE-SALE, TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF WEAPON TO ANOTHER PERSON, AND DISPOSITION IN ANY OTHER WAY (SUCH AS PERMISSSION TO EXPORT BY DEPARTING INDIVIDUAL, OR VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF WEAPON TO POLICE).

(VI) THEFT OF A WEAPON MUST IMMEDIATELY BE REPORTED TO THE POLICE.

(VII) FIREARMS, PENDING CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OR AWAITING EXPORTATION, MUST BE DEPOSITED WITH POLICE OR AGRIND FOR SAFE CUSTODY.

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NNN

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